

61248CON (50586)  
U.S.S.N. 10/656,671  
Ono et al.

**REMARKS**

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended to their undersigned representative in telephonic interviews on April 19 and May 18, 2005. Further to those discussions, Applicants submit these amendments and the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08.

The specification has been amended to correct a minor typographical error in the Examiner's Amendment dated March 15, 2005. No new matter has been added.

Applicants submit the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08 to formally make of record the reference noted thereon. While it is clear that the Examiner has considered this reference in connection with this application (see the Office Action mailed July 14, 2004, at page 4), no initialed Form PTO/SB/08 or Form PTO-892 has been received from the Examiner to reflect this fact. Applicants wish to formally make of record the reference so that it will appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue from the application. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08.

A copy of the reference listed on the PTO/SB/08 is provided herewith, and in addition may be found in the application file of the parent application No. 10/000,742, filed on November 30, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,693,097, to which the present application claims priority.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the submission of this Form PTO/SB/08 shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the submission of this Form PTO/SB/08 shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

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**CONCLUSION**

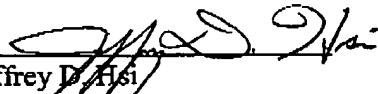
Should the Examiner consider that any obstacles to issuance exist, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicants' undersigned representative at the number below. Applicants thank the Examiner in advance for this courtesy.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge or credit any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 04-1105, under Order No. 50586-61248CON.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 26, 2005

By

  
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